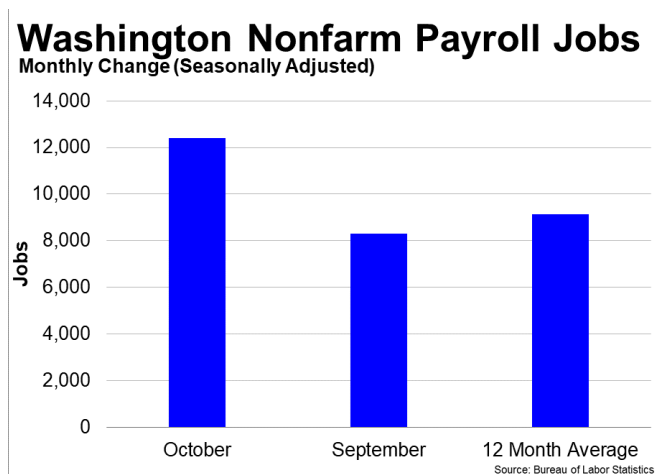
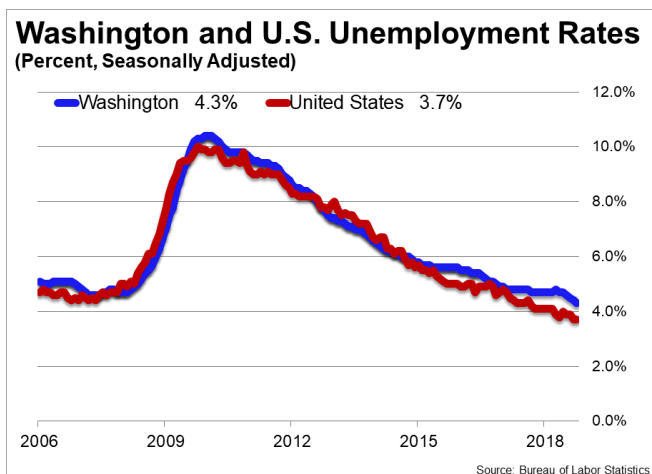




November 16, 2018

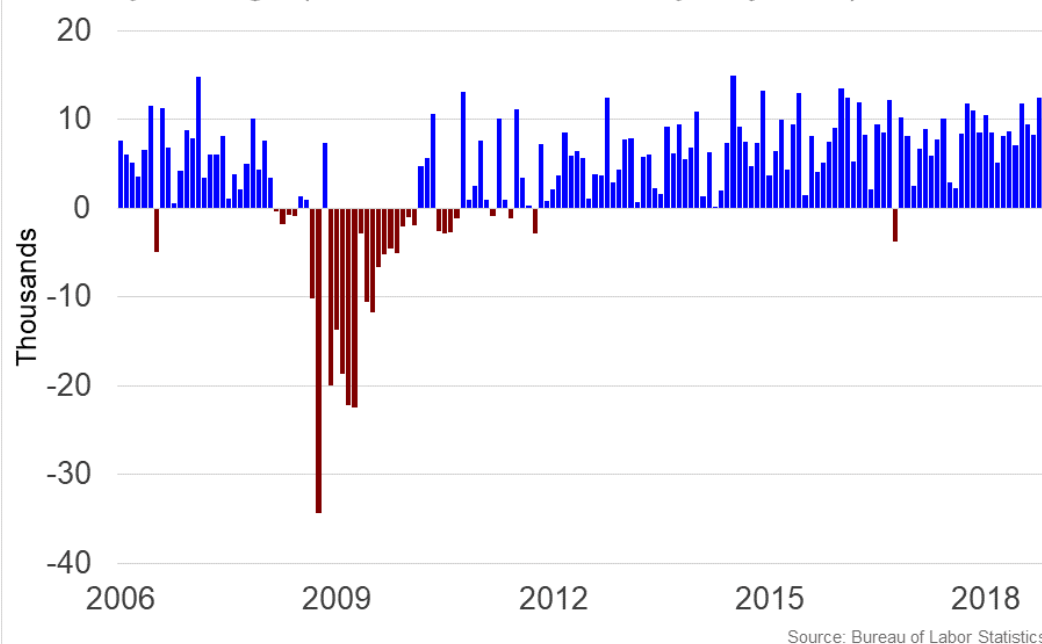
## Summary

- **Washington added 12,400 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.3 percent in October** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Washington added 109,600 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point from 4.7 percent.
- **In October, Washington's private sector added 8,800 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 100,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Washingtonians fell by 2,138 in October**, and over the past year 39,783 Washingtonians found jobs.
- Washington's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 63.3 percent in October. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.8 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October**. State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 7, 2018.



# Washington Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



## Washington Payroll Employment

Washington added 12,400 jobs, or 0.36 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, Washington added 8,300 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Washington increased by 109,600, or 3.27 percent. Washington nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 24 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000 jobs in October, or 0.17 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,516,000 jobs, or 1.71 percent. Washington ranks 15th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Washington's private-sector added 8,800 jobs, or 0.31 percent. The private-sector in Washington added 6,900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Washington increased by 100,100, or 3.62 percent. Washington private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 246,000 jobs in October, or 0.19 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,450,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.96 percent. Washington ranks 16th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Total Government (+3,600) and Construction (+2,500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-700) and Mining & Logging (+100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+21,900) and Professional & Business Services (+20,200). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (+200) and Other Services (+3,700).



## Washington Labor Force Statistics

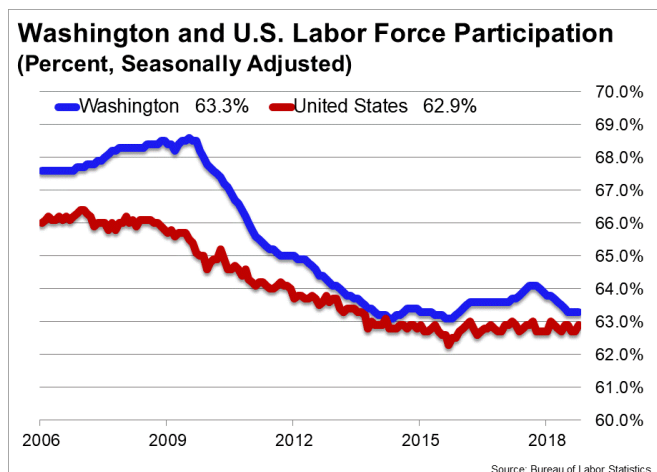
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Washington was unchanged at 63.3 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 25 have a higher labor force participation rate than Washington. The labor force participation rate in Washington is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Washington was 68.6 percent in July 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Washington occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 70.5 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 63.1 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 60.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 62.9 percent in October, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Washington civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 60.6 percent in October from 60.5 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of



Columbia, 27 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Washington. The employment-to-population ratio in Washington is 0.5 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington was 64.1 percent in November 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington occurred in February 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.1 percent in January 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.2 percentage point to 60.6 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

